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A NEW SPECIES OF *LASCOTONUS* GROUVELLE (COLEOPTERA, COLYDIIDAE) WITH NOTES ON RELATED GENERA

The present paper is based on material from Museo Civico di Storia Naturale in Genova, which I received for determination from Dr. Roberto Poggi. I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. R. Poggi who gave me the opportunity to study this interesting collection; the new species is named after his honour.

***Lascotonus p o g g i i* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1)

D e s c r i p t i o n

Body parallel, moderately convex; dorsal surface somewhat shiny, colour black to dark rufo-piceous, elytra with reddish bands, antenna, mouth-parts and legs paler than the rest of body.

Head moderately convex, feebly depressed on each side near eyes and antennal insertions, surface with round to oblong prominent granules, which are about twice as coarse as facets of eyes and are separated by one or less diameter, from top of each granule arises a stout club-shaped, erect yellowish seta which is about as long as diameter of granule; antenna with second segment twice as long and wide as third segment, third segment 1.5 times as long as wide, segments IV-VIII

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progressively broader and shorter and IX-XI forming short antennal club which is as long as segments VI-VIII together; clypeus with anterior margin truncate medially, broadly sinuate on each side, surface with granules less prominent, finer and sparser than those on vertex; eyes large, fully developed, normally faceted.

Pronotum slightly longer than broad (56:50) with maximum width at anterior angles and slightly narrowing toward the base; an-

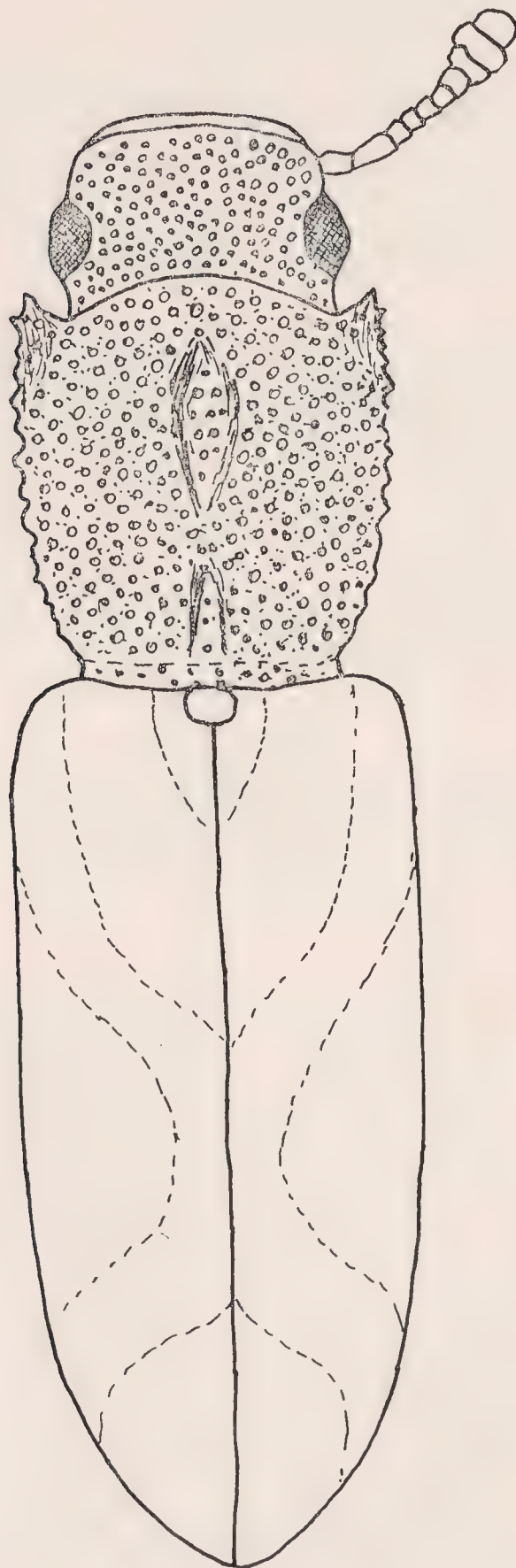


Fig. 1 - *Lascotonus poggii* sp. nov., dorsal view.

terior margin strongly arcuate medially, sinuate laterally to strongly produced anterior angles; lateral margins somewhat explanate near anterior angles, dentate and very slightly arcuate; posterior angles not clearly formed; disk of pronotum slightly depressed medially with broad, interrupted median groove (fig. 1); surface sculptured like head but with granules larger 1 - 1.5 diameter apart.

Scutellum small, rounded, with rugose surface.

Elytra more than twice as long as their maximum combined width (140:53), parallel-sided, convex, rounded apically, each elytron with reddish bands; each elytron with 7 striae, stria punctures deep, rounded about as broad as intervals between the striae, longitudinally between each pair of stria punctures with very prominent carina which is sometimes tuberculiform; from centre of each carina arises a stout, erect club-shaped seta.

Ventral side with prosternum, mesosternum and metasternum with rugose punctures and tubercles, ventrites with irregular sculpture; underside of eyes with antennal groove extending to behind level of posterior borders of eyes; forecoxal cavities closed behind; prosternal process short, parallel-sided, sculptured.

Legs long, tibia and femora with squamiform setae; tarsi 4-segmented.

Length 4.8 mm, width 1.2 mm.

Material examined

Holotype (sex not determined): Mentawai Is., Sipora, Sereinu V-VI [18] 94, E. Modigliani leg., in collection of the Museo Civico di Storia Naturale « G. Doria », Genova.

Key to the species of *Lascotonus* Grouv.

1. Elytra with three round reddish spots or with large bands (fig. 1). 2
- Elytra unicoloured or with two indistinct spots in apical parts 4
2. Pronotum with distinct median groove (fig. 1). Mentawai Is. *L. poggii* sp. nov.
- Pronotum without median groove 3
3. Elytra with three reddish spots; pronotal base not interrupted; elytra 2.5 times longer than wide. Engano, Mysol. *L. cylindricus* Grouv.

- Elytra with reddish bands; pronotal base interrupted medially; elytra 3.3 times longer than wide. Seychelles Is. *L. scotti* Grouv.
- 4. Elytral squamiform setae short and situated obliquely to the elytra. Malacca *L. malaccensis* Heinze
- Elytral setae longer and situated perpendicular to the elytra. Sumatra *L. frater* Grouv.

Note: I have examined from the collection of Genova Museum the following specimens of *L. frater* Grouv.: 7, Mentawai Is., Si Oban IV-VII 1894, E. Modigliani; 3, Mentawai Is. Sipora, Se-reinu V-VI 1894, E. Modigliani.

Three genera of the tribe Coxelini form a group characterized by dorsal sculpture with prominent granules. They are: *Lastrema* Reitter, *Lascotrichus* Pope and *Lascotonus* Grouvelle which form probably one filogenetical line.

Lastrema Reitter: only one species *L. verrucicollis* (Reitt.) from Caucasus is known. This genus has the forecoxal cavities narrowly open behind and antennal club composed with two segments.

Lascotrichus Pope: this genus was erected to include two Ethiopian species: *heops* (Hinton) and *eichelbaumi* (Grouv.), and has forecoxal cavities closed behind and antennal club 2-segmented.

Lascotonus Grouvelle: it has the forecoxal cavities closed behind and antennal club 3-segmented; the five known species are tabulated above.

RIASSUNTO

Viene descritto *Lascotonus poggii*, nuova specie di Colydiidae delle Isole Mentawai; è fornita la chiave per l'identificazione delle cinque specie note del genere; sono brevemente commentati i generi affini.

SUMMARY

The Author describes *Lascotonus poggii* new species of Colydiidae from the Mentawai Islands; he supplies the key for the identification of five known species of the genus with notes on the related genera.